

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TANANA 00313 271419Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15 MC-02

/062 W

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R 270910Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7990

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 0313

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, BEXP, MA, UR, US

SUBJ: SOVIETS TO GIVE HELICOPTER TO MADAGASCAR

REF: TANANARIVE 272

1. LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR SIKORSKY INFORMED EMBASSY FEB. 25 THAT HE WAS TOLD BY LT. COL. RAKOTOBÉ, COMMANDER OF THE MALAGASY AIR CORPS, THAT SOVIETS HAVE JUST OFFERED ONE MI-8 HELICOPTER TO PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA AS A GIFT. RAKOTOBÉ ALSO REPORTED SOVIET HELICOPTER IS SCHEDULED FOR DELIVERY IN MARCH, AND WILL BE IN VIP CONFIGURATION FOR THE USE OF THE PRESIDENT.

2. ACCORDING TO SIKORSKY REPRESENTATIVE (WHO IS ALSO LOCAL DISTRIBUTOR FOR CATERPILLAR AND CESSNA AIRCRAFT AND CONSIDERED RELIABLE SOURCE), GDRM STILL PLANS TO BUY TWO OR THREE UTILITY HELICOPTERS, AND HAS YET TO MAKE FINAL DECISION BETWEEN SOVIET AND SIKORSKY OFFERS. COL. RAKOTOBÉ TOLD HIM GDRM WILL NOW PROBABLY DEFER DECISION OF PURCHASE OF UTILITY HELICOPTERS FOR THREE TO SIX MONTHS IN ORDER TO TEST PERFORMANCE UNDER LOCAL CONDITIONS OF THE MI-8 IT WILL BE RECEIVING AS A GIFT.  
SHEINBAUM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** HELICOPTERS, GIFTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 FEB 1976  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Film Number:** D760075-0441  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, EAIR, BEXP, MA, UR, US, (RATSIRAKA, DIDIER)  
**To:** STATE  
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